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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/915,360	07/27/2001	Hiroshi Ishii	R2184.0123/P123	6987

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EXAMINER	
MILIA, MARK R	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/915,360	ISHII ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark R. Milia	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 July 2001 is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/27/01.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5969828 to Kawasaki et al.

Regarding claim 1, Kawasaki discloses an image processing device comprising: a plurality of image production processing parts each of which generates drawing data for image drawing processing from image drawing instructions obtained through data compression (see Fig. 4, column 10 line 64-column 11 line 4, column 11 lines 26-35, column 12 lines 5-11 and 59-63, column 13 lines 1-8 and 53-56, and column 16 lines 5-11, reference shows a plurality of expanders that processes the compressed data and generates drawing data that is in turn sent to the printer to be printed, which is analogous to the claimed limitation), a dividing part which divides the given image drawing instructions into a plurality of sets of image drawing instructions without decompressing them in such a manner that each set of image drawing instructions can be processed by one of said plurality of image producing processing part without referring to any other set of image drawing instructions (see Fig. 6, column 4 lines 32-

36, column 12 lines 20-25 and 40-47, column 15 lines 8-14, and column 16 lines 26-32), and a distributing part which distributes the plurality of sets of image drawing instructions to said plurality of image production processing parts (see Fig. 4 (27), column 10 line 64-column 11 line 4, column 11 lines 13-41, and column 16 lines 5-11).

Regarding claim 5, Kawasaki discloses an image processing method comprising the steps of: generating drawing data for image drawing processing from image drawing instructions obtained through data compression (see Fig. 4, column 10 line 64-column 11 line 4, column 11 lines 26-35, column 12 lines 5-11 and 59-63, column 13 lines 1-8 and 53-56, and column 16 lines 5-11) and b) dividing the given image drawing instructions into a plurality of sets image drawing instructions without decompressing them in such a manner that each set of image drawing instructions can be processed by said step a) without referring to any other set of image drawing instructions (see Fig. 6, column 4 lines 32-36, column 12 lines 20-25 and 40-47, column 15 lines 8-14, and column 16 lines 26-32).

Regarding claim 9, Kawasaki discloses an image forming apparatus comprising: a plurality of image production processing parts each of which generates drawing data for image drawing processing from image drawing instructions obtained through data compression (see Fig. 4, column 10 line 64-column 11 line 4, column 11 lines 26-35, column 12 lines 5-11 and 59-63, column 13 lines 1-8 and 53-56, and column 16 lines 5-11), a dividing part which divides the given image drawing instructions into a plurality of sets of image drawing instructions without decompressing them in such a manner that each set of image drawing instructions can be processed by any of said plurality of

image producing processing part without referring to any other set of image drawing instructions (see Fig. 6, column 4 lines 32-36, column 12 lines 20-25 and 40-47, column 15 lines 8-14, and column 16 lines 26-32), a distributing part which distributes the plurality of sets of image drawing instructions said plurality of image production processing parts (see Fig. 4, column 10 line 64-column 11 line 4, column 11 lines 13-41, and column 16 lines 5-11), a drawing processing part which performs drawing processing according to drawing data given by said parts, and thus forms an image (see Fig. 1, column 8 lines 57-59, column 11 lines 37-41, and column 16 lines 26-32).

Regarding claims 2 and 6, Kawasaki discloses the system discussed in claims 1 and 5, and further discloses wherein image data corresponding to the given image drawing instructions to be processed here comprises image data obtained through data compression such that the resulting image data comprises a plurality of data blocks and each data block can be decompressed without referring to any other data block (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 12 lines 20-25, 40-47, and 52-56, column 13 lines 1-8, 12-27, and 51-56, and column 15 lines 8-14, 17-26, and 29-40).

Regarding claims 3 and 7, Kawasaki discloses the system discussed in claims 2 and 6, and further discloses wherein said dividing part divides given image data by a border between data blocks (see Figs. 6 and 7; column 15 lines 51-56, and column 20 line 6-column 21 line 24).

Regarding claims 4 and 8, Kawasaki discloses the system discussed in claims 1 and 5, and further discloses wherein image data corresponding to the given image drawing instructions comprises image data obtained through data compression by a

fixed length compressing method (see column 12 lines 40-56, column 12 line 58-column 13 line 27, column 15 lines 40-56, column 19 lines 28-36, and column 20 line 10-column 21 line 49, reference shows that data is divided into blocks of a predetermined size based on the size of the received image and then compressed based on this information and the compression is not started until the proper number of lines have been read reached which is analogous to a fixed-length compression method).

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. To further show the state of the art refer to U.S. Patent numbers 5327248 (Miller et al.), 6078691 (Luttmer), 6154569 (Sakaue et al.), 6658156 (Aritomi), 6714205 (Miyashita et al.), 6735740 (Sakai et al.), 6774926 (Nishigaki), and 6771827 (Curry) and U.S. Patent Application Publication number 2002/0102027 (Miyake et al.).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached at(571) 272-7402. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark R. Milia
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

MRM

JOSEPH R. POKRZYWA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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